

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A coloring method of a tangible matter having a polyamide bond, comprising:

treating the tangible matter having a polyamide bond with an aqueous solution ~~consisting essentially of~~ containing an aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups, ~~one or more dyeing assistant agents~~ and a metal salt, at a temperature of 40°C or more, ~~wherein the tangible matter having a polyamide bond is treated with an aromatic derivative and a metal salt either simultaneously or separately~~ without using any dye.

2. (Original) The coloring method of a tangible matter according to claim 1, wherein the aromatic derivative having one or more hydroxyl groups is dihydroxybenzoic acid, dihydroxybenzaldehyde, trihydroxybenzoic acid, trihydroxybenzaldehyde or tannic acid.

3. (Original) The coloring method of a tangible matter according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the metal salt is an iron salt.

4. (Previously Presented) A tangible matter having a polyamide bond which is colored by using the method according to claim 1.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the treating steps are performed separately.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the dyeing assistant agent is selected from the group consisting of a penetrating agent, a fatliquoring agent and a pH adjustor.